

WSDOT I-5 Seattle & Shoreline Construction

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I-90 Closures this Weekend: Seattle/Bellevue and West of Snoqualmie Summit

Drivers should expect delays due to closures on I-90 in Seattle/Bellevue and west of Snoqualmie Summit this weekend. WSDOT and Sound Transit will [close](#) the westbound lanes of I-90 between Mercer Island and Seattle overnights and the I-90 express lanes between Seattle and Bellevue most of the weekend to conduct [technical tests](#) on the I-90 Homer Hadley Floating Bridge. The express lanes will be open eastbound from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17 and 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18 to help football fans return home after games at Qwest Field. All eastbound I-90 mainline lanes and ramps between Seattle and Bellevue will remain open throughout the weekend.

Two miles west of Snoqualmie Summit, two of three westbound lanes of I-90 will be [closed](#) due to recent rockslides. For drivers this means delays of two-and-a-half hours or more. The lanes will be closed for at least the next two weeks while WSDOT crews take steps to stabilize the hillside adjacent to the highway. We will not open the lanes until we can guarantee they are safe for drivers. Drivers crossing the Cascades should consider taking U.S. 2, State Route 12 or State Route 410.

WSDOT Incident Response Teams will be on duty on I-90 and alternate routes to clear roads and help drivers. If you are traveling across Lake Washington or the Cascades this weekend, plan ahead, expect delays and check real-time traffic information by visiting our [traffic and travel Web site](#) or calling our 511 phone line.

Overnight Closure on I-5 Through Downtown Seattle as Crews Wrap Up Pavement Rehabilitation Work

We have just a few more nights to go before finishing work is done on the [I-5 paving project](#), between James and Olive streets, through downtown Seattle. This Monday, Sept. 19, crews will [close](#) two left lanes of northbound I-5 in the vicinity of the express lanes entrance at 11 p.m. Crews are installing permanent pavement markings. Two lanes will remain open on northbound I-5 through downtown. All lanes will reopen to traffic by 5 a.m. the following morning.

Viaduct Receives Federal Funding and Fall Inspection

The [Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project](#) received \$231 million from the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act signed by President Bush last month. Congress recognized a few key projects like the Viaduct as Projects of National and Regional Significance. The Viaduct received the largest share of the \$3 billion provided to transportation projects in Washington State.

Next up for the viaduct is an inspection in October. During the inspection the Alaskan Way Viaduct will be closed on Saturday, Oct. 15 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 16 from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. so inspectors can check on damaged areas and conduct routine maintenance. The closures will extend from Spokane Street north through the Battery Street Tunnel.

Since the Nisqually Earthquake in 2001, inspectors have visited the Viaduct every six months to determine further deterioration or substantial changes in the Viaduct's condition. The results of the inspectors' report will be available to the public, so that we can all better understand the Viaduct's current condition. The project team and lead agencies will work to address any safety concerns as a result of the inspection.

Noise Walls Continue to Rise Along I-5, Closures on Boylston Avenue Through Mid-October

Crews are building [noise walls](#) on I-5 in Seattle along Boylston Avenue and the Harvard Avenue on-ramp to I-5. This month our crews installed wall anchors to extend the noise wall at Harvard Avenue. So far we are more than 30 percent done building and extending these two walls. Northbound Boylston Avenue between Roanoke and Lynn streets will be closed until mid-October while crews install the new noise walls. Drivers may use Eastlake Avenue as a detour. Southbound Boylston Avenue will be kept open to traffic. Also, one block of Roanoke Street, between Boylston and Franklin, is closed to westbound traffic until mid-October. The block is open to eastbound traffic for local access only.

Sidewalk Grinding Complete on Aurora Bridge

Crews on the Aurora Avenue Bridge (State Route 99) [safety improvement project](#) got in, got their work done, and got out quickly. Noisy sidewalk grinding is now complete on both sides of the bridge. In August, crews began installing sidewalk barrier on the east side of the bridge. This month crews will install sidewalk railing. Plan for overnight northbound lane [closures](#) on the bridge until 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday nights.

Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel Closing for Retrofit

To accommodate light rail coming in 2009, Sound Transit will retrofit and upgrade the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel for use by both trains and buses. To complete their work they must close the bus tunnel for up to two years, starting on Sept. 24, 2005. The buses that currently run in the tunnel will travel on surface streets during that time. Sound Transit and the City of Seattle are [changing traffic in Downtown Seattle](#) to help keep buses and other traffic moving.

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